

MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

On Friday, June 5, 2020, a special meeting of the Illinois Racing Board was held via WebEx Audio Conferencing starting at 1:00 p.m. The following Board members participated: Chairman Dan Beiser and Commissioners Marcus Davis, Charles MacKelvie, Thomas McCauley, Arlene Mulder, Benjamin Reyes. Staff members Domenic DiCera, John Gay, Mickey Ezzo, Michael Belmonte, and Donald Marquez also participated. The meeting was recessed at 1:56 p.m. on June 5, 2020. At 10:00 a.m. on Monday, June 8, 2020, the meeting was reconvened.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

The Board entertained comments from the following speakers: Tony Somone, representing the Illinois Harness Horsemen's Association (IHHA); Paula McCanick; Larry Rivelli; and representing the Illinois Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association (ITHA), Michael Campbell, David McCaffrey, Terry Young, and Chris Block.

BOARD REQUEST

Commissioner Reyes moved for ratification of the Board Order approved by the Board on May 22, 2020. The Board Order amended the 2020 Dates Order by awarding Arlington Park host status from May 23 through June 18, 2020. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote.

LICENSEE REQUESTS

Commissioner Reyes moved for approval to amend the 2020 Dates Order to reflect the following changes proposed by Fairmount Park, Inc.: Resume live racing on Tuesday, June 9, racing 2 days per week on Mondays and Tuesdays with a post time of 4:30 p.m. Also, live racing on KY Derby Day, Saturday, September 5 for a total of 27 live race days. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote. Fairmount Park President Melissa Helton testified on behalf of Fairmount Park.

Commissioner Reyes moved for approval to amend the 2020 Dates Order to reflect the following changes proposed by Suburban Downs, Inc.: Resume live racing on Saturday, June 6. Beginning with the Saturday, June 6 race card, Suburban Downs shall conduct the race dates granted by the Board through closing night Sunday, September 20 for a total of 47 live race days. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote. John Walsh testified on behalf of Suburban Downs.

The meeting was recessed at 1:56 p.m. on June 5, 2020 and reconvened on June 8, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. The request submitted by Arlington Park Racecourse, LLC for approval to amend the 2020 Dates Order to change live race days and post times was deferred. Tony Petrillo testified on behalf of Arlington Park.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:25 a.m. on June 8, 2020, Commissioner Reyes moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Mulder seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0) by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Domenic DiCera
Executive Director